

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A fitting for retrofitting to a tracheostomy tube is
provided that includes an inlet portion for attachment to an
outlet structure of the tracheostomy tube and an outlet
portion for extending from the outlet structure of the
tracheostomy tube. In this embodiment, the outlet portion is
connected to the inlet portion and includes at least one side
10 opening. A tracheostomy tube is also provided that includes
an inlet structure for insertion into a patient's trachea and
an outlet structure for extending from an opening in the
patient's neck. In this embodiment, the outlet structure is
connected to the inlet structure and includes at least one
15 side opening. A method of modifying a tracheostomy tube is
also provided that includes producing at least one side
opening in the outlet structure of the tracheostomy tube.

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